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A Challenging Need and Opportunity

By JAMES S. MARTIN, D.D.
Former Superintendent of The National Reform Association

That the schools make the nation is a saying so common that it is almost trite. The highest authorities in practically all walks of life are a unit on this—Horace Mann, Benjamin Kidd, Archbishop Ireland, James Russell Lowell, Nicholas Murray Butler, Luther A. Weigel, Calvin Coolidge, Charles Clayton Marrison, and so on almost *ad infinitum*.

That the Book of books was read in practically all the schools of the land in the early history of our country and instruction given in what it teaches is denied by none who are at all familiar with the country's history. Sad to say, however, that the practice has been largely discontinued, at least in the great majority of the nation's schools. This downward course began in the seventies and eighties and has continued unto the present time, at least until very recently.

And, mark you, this Word of God, as vital to national life as it is to home and church life went out of our schools, *not* by legislation and court decisions so *much*, if indeed *at all*, as by alien influence and especially by indifference on the part of its professed friends. Suffice it to say that our present system of public education is largely secular. The Word of God where read at all is as a rule read cursorily and its teachings scarcely ever referred to save in rare cases and on special occasions. And that is secularization. It is not at all necessary openly to teach irreligion in our schools to secularize them. The mere absence of religious instruction in them means their secularization. Rear up generations of youth that know not God nor the moral law and out of it comes a host of evils, even disastrous world wars with their chaos and confusion, devastation and destruction.

The Challenging Need

Out of our secularized system of public education come an ever-increasing host of juvenile delinquents, yea even a youthful criminals. Any one who reads the reports of Edward J. Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, knows this.

Nor is this all. The fearful and awful political corruption that exists in our land is in no small degree attributable to this same thing. So far as the schools themselves are concerned the youth trained in them come to manhood and womanhood, with little or no knowledge of the politico-religious truths of the Word of God. They are not taught that civil government is an ordinance of God, that the "powers that be are ordained of God"; or that civil rulers are God's ministers to restrain the people from evil doing and encourage them to do right; or that *all* law—civil as well as ecclesiastical—hath its seat in the bosom of God, and that the sole duty of our lawmakers is to discover what the will of God is and to embody it in the statutes adapted to the needs of the people whom they represent. The schools that *make the nation* no longer teach that end, as a consequence, generations of youth have grown up half or more of whom are citizens but not Christians and the remainder of whom are of course citizens and, in the judgment of charity, may be called Christians, but the majority of whom are a thousand leagues away from being Christian citizens. That is, they have little or no knowledge of the teachings of the Word of God relative to civil and political life and who of course do not follow them in their civil and political actions. Hence the exaltation, far too oft, to civil and political office—positions of power and influence—of men who have no fixed standard of political action and who are governed solely by what they deem the will of the people irrespective of the will of God and not infrequently antagonistic to that will. Witness, for example the legalization of the accursed traffic in intoxicating beverages, the widespread and ever-increasing desecration of the Lord's Day, the corruption of the family life, etc., etc.—all of which strike at the very heart and destroy the very foundation of our national life. This then is the challenging *need* of the hour. And to remedy it, we should begin in our system of public education which has practically all the youth of the country 5 or 6 hours of the day, five days in the week and nine or ten months in the year.

The Challenging Opportunity

This is to be found in the general awakening on the subject in hand in practically all sections of our country and on the part of so very many people. Public education in the United States, as you know, is left to the States.

In 1940 the North Carolina Synod of the Southern Presbyterian Church passed a resolution urging some type of religious education in the public schools, asserting that this lack was a big factor in the collapse of France under the German invasion. All religious education in the schools of France was eliminated forty years ago.

Durham, N. C., has introduced Bible study in the schools of that city, and that with the approval of the city Board of Education.

The Little Rock, Arkansas, school board has under consideration the adoption of the Bible in the city schools as a text-book. It is being urged by many organizations in the city, because of the alarming growth of juvenile delinquency in that state.

The Chicago Church Federation has approved in principle the proposal of the Superintendent of schools in that city for religious instruction in the schools. The Federation is spending $13,000 a year and employing two men full time in an effort to check the alarming increase in youthful criminality.

In the schools of the Philippines, prior to their seizure by Japan, instruction was given in religion.

Van Wagoner, the recent Governor of Michigan, in an address made last year, said: "American education at the outset correctly placed the first emphasis on religion. Later we got away from that, neglecting the most important part of education—the building of characted. *This was the biggest mistake America ever made.*" (Italics ours). Evidently he's ready for non-sectarian religious instruction in our public schools.

Why Not in the Schools?

In 1940 the Kentucky legislature passed a new law for moral instruction in the schools of that state, and the assistant attorney general, in deciding that that law does not violate the State constitution, said: "Moral instruction is necessary (and we all know there cannot be any moral instruction that is not based on religion) and there is no difference between teaching it *in the schools* and dismissing children to be taught *in some other place* for a certain time each week." What possible gain can there be in taking the children out of the schoolroom to give them Christian instruction? For the very life of us we can think of none. On the contrary, we can conceive of immeasurable harm in it—that of impressing upon their youthful minds the idea that the schools, as such, have nothing whatever to do with Christianity or religion of any sort; that you must get out of the schoolroom if you want to know anything about that which is most vital to the nation's life and welfare. That's like teaching religion not *on* but *off* the campuses of our State colleges and universities.

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The New Crusade Against the Liquor Traffic

REV. W. W. McKINNEY, Ph.D., D.D.
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Ambridge, Pa.

Whether viewed from the standpoint of patriotism or of religion the present tragic conditions created by the unscrupulous liquor traffic demand that the Christian Church rise in a renewed attack upon one of the oldest evils that has persistently undermined character. Excessive indulgence in intoxicating liquors is the greatest saboteur preventing an all out war effort and prolonging the war with its multiplying cost in men and treasure. It presents its manifold temptations to youth amid the glamor of a comouflaged respectability and deceptive advertising that reaps a financial harvest at the sacrifice of youthful ideals and blighted aspirations. The church must awake from its discouraged lethargy and crusade with the enthusiasm and consecration of former years of victorious advance. Three fundamental and inescapable reasons motivate and make imperative this renewed crusade.

Tragic Conditions Created

By Repeal

First, the tragic conditions resulting from the present inadequate liquor laws. The repeal of the 18th Amendment left the temperance forces discouraged and disorganized and with no carefully prepared legislative program to restrict the relegalized traffic in intoxicating beverages. The abundantly financed liquor lobby aggressively capitalized this discouraged confusion to its own advantage. The very minimum of legislative restraints made possible a multitude of licensed agencies in an overwhelming majority of communities. Drinking was given a mask of respectability, and booze and philanthropy were joined in an unholy alliance and sold in restaurants and stores and taxed to aid necessary revenue for old age pensions, relief grants and other essential benevolent projects.

As a result temperance advocates were stigmatized into silence and the liquor industry given the green light to rush young people into ruinous indulgence. Everywhere the tragic consequences are apparent in a per capita alcoholic consumption that exceeds any previous period in our national history and compiles alarming statistics of youthly criminality and juvenile delinquency and that fastens the degrading habit upon uncounted millions of women in all social strata. Whereas fondly we had imagined that John Barleycorn was dead and buried in the concrete vault of a saloonless nation, now he has risen from his premature grave to take with him seven other devils more deadly than himself to create the intolerable conditions that now demand that the church rise in a renewed crusade against an unscrupulous traffic. The very intensity of the evils of repeal constitute a challenge which conscientious citizens dare not ignore.

An Inherently Evil Traffic

The second essential reason for the renewed crusade is the oft demonstrated historic fact that the liquor industry has no moral power to heal the evils inherent in its debauching traffic. Different states have tried various types of control in an effort to reduce alcoholic consumption and win the cooperation of the organized liquor industry, but all in vain. By bribery, trickery and defiance these restrictive laws have been flaunted and evaded. Greed for larger profits has been insatiable and deceptive lures of varying degrees of immorality have been used to attractive new and younger drinkers.

If there ever was a time when patriotism and national welfare would demand that the brewers and whiskey dispensers voluntarily restrict themselves for the welfare of humanity it is now. But no, the liquor industry merely cloaks itself in the garment of patriotism as it reaches out for a larger share of the national income and advertises for more customers. Apparently the very act of pandering to human weaknesses dulls all moral sensibilities and leaves the individual deaf to all cries other than those of self-interest.

The recurrent crusades against the liquor traffic have all been led by a small but determined group of consecrated enthusiasts who had been motivated by a love for unfortunate humanity, who have heard Christ's call to self-sacrifice for the welfare of exploited brethren and who have realized that the strong must bear the infirmaties of the weak. Only the dynamic power of religious faith and conviction can energize a successful crusade. The fight against a commercialized evil will always remain a moral responsibility, not a problem of economics or military expediency. It is the task of the Christian Church, whose divine Leader taught and demonstrated the victorious way of the cross.

Contracted Economic Conditions

The third reason is the changed economic situation which adds urgency to the crusade against a hampering evil. When the 18th Amendment was repealed, widespread unemployment and food surpluses made plausible certain economic arguments for repeal. Instead of a labor surplus, war stimulated industry is now demanding more workers than are available. Yet large resources of manpower are used to manufacture and distribute beer and wine and to sell whiskey that must be rationed to meet a demand that has increased some 300 percent in these days of high wages. Many socially useful industries have been compelled to stop manufacturing their desired products and to turn over their facilities to further the war effort. Why should manpower be wasted in the employment of thousands of men who now manufacture and sell a product that at best is socially destructive?

Every increase in production of ships, tanks, airplanes and munitions hastens the final victory and saves precious American lives. Yet in one month 12,600,000 man hours lost in absenteeism, caused largely by payday and week-end sprees, as high wages and multiplied saloons tempt workers to indulgence. Statistical evidence is available at any plant and reveals monthly production losses far greater than the year's total losses through strikes.

Moreover, the surplus of food has been changed into civilian shortages, caused by the necessities of a lease lend program and widespread starvation in areas that have been ravaged by global war. When children are starving and our Allies are demanding food in unlimited quantities, to waste our previous harvest in the manufacture of beer and wine is to manifest a callous indifference to suffering humanity.

A Five-Fold Program

What then must be done? What are the immediate objectives of the new crusade? A return to prohibition? Yes, as a long distant goal, but not as a practical present day solution. The premature return to prohibition, or its adoption as a war time policy, would merely lead to inevitable repeal in the moral let-down which always follows as a consequence of war. Let me suggest a five-fold program.

(a) Follow the example of Canada and make all liquor advertising illegal. At the present time between 30 to 40 million dollars are being spent each year in the most skillful and pernicious advertising campaign ever designed to delude the American people and create a wider market. The best advertising brains have been employed in news-

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

To our Christian Statesman readers and the friends of The National Reform Association we extend heartiest Christmas and New Year's Greetings. To all we express our appreciation and thanks for their loyal support throughout the year now drawing to a close. Your support has made 1943 our best year in the recent past. We request your continued loyalty and support for the year 1944. It will be a year of destiny. Momentous decisions will be made before it closes which will profoundly effect the future of the world for generations if not centuries to come.

The National Reform Association has planned a much more extensive program for 1944 than we have carried out in 1943 especially along the line of the Bible and moral and religious instruction in our public schools and in building a public sentiment for a Christian World Order and bringing it to bear upon our public officials. To carry out this program our budget for 1944 is $25,000. Let us all pull together to make 1944 far exceed 1943.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

A National Day of Prayer

By the President of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

At the end of the year 1943, which has not only made manifest the devotion and courage of our nation's sons but has also crowned their efforts with brilliant success on every battle front, it is fitting that we set aside a day of prayer to give thanks to Almighty God for His constant providence over us in every hour of national peace and national peril.

At the beginning of the new year 1944, which now lies before us, it is fitting that we pray to be preserved from false pride of acommplishment and from willful neglect of the last measure of public and private sacrifice necessary to attain final victory and peace. May we humbly seek strength and guidance for the problems of widening warfare and for the responsibility of increasing victory. May we find in the infinite mercy of the God of our Fathers some measure of comfort for the personal anxieties of separation and anguish of bereavement.

Now, Therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Saturday, the first day of January 1944, as a day of prayer for all of us, in our churches, in our homes, and in our hearts, those of us who walk in the familiar paths of home, those who fight on the wide battlefields of the world, those who go down to the sea in ships, and those who ride in the air on wings.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this third day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-eighth.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

By the President:

CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State.

PRAYER WINS VICTORIES

This is the third year in succession that President Roosevelt has called upon the American people to observe New Year's Day as a Day of Prayer on account of our nation's participation in the war. This year he includes, very properly, in the call, prayer for the responsibilities that will come with victory. It is our hope that the American people will respond wholeheartedly to this call. As history has proved, prayer is a weapon that can be employed most effectively in winning victories in war, as well as in establishing peace. History is replete with acts of supernatural intervention in time of war in answer to intercessory prayer.

"O Lord, our fathers oft have told,
In our attentive ears,
Thy wonders in their days performed,
And in more ancient years.
'Twas not their courage nor their sword
To them salvation gave;
'Twas not their number nor their strength
That did their country save;
But Thy right hand, Thy powerful arm,
Whose succor they implored,
Thy providence protected them
Who Thy great Name adored."

—Psalm 44: 1-3

HYMN OF ALLIED UNITY

Almighty God, whose will alone
Abides through time a changeless throne;
Our storm-tossed nations, like the sea,
In tides of prayer turn unto Thee.

Lead all our peoples by Thy might;
Inspire our armies by Thy right;
We consecrate our hosts to Thee
To free and serve humanity.

Uphold our allies—may we stand
Steadfast in faith at Thy command.
Lead us as one, that we may save
The holy birthright Heaven gave.

Fredom to call Thy skies our own;
Freedom to reap what we have sown;
Freedom to keep our hearthstones bright
By love's pure flame and faith's clear light.

Give to our arms, O Sovereign Will,
Conquests of good suppressing ill;
Not provinces in thraldom bound,
But lands made free as holy ground.

Grant to humanity Thy grace,
And let the glory of Thy face,
Through truth acclaimed and victory won,
Shine on a world where strife is done.

—Ernest Warburton Shurtleff.

One Step Toward Saving the Sabbath

Rev. Hugh A. Kelsey, D.D.
President, Sterling College,
Sterling, Kansas

"Saving the Sabbath" is a correct statement. In a very large way the Lord's day has been lost. It is not only trampled upon and violated, but in many circles of American life, (not all of them outside the Church), it has been lost.

Not that there has been no concern about it. Preachers have preached and exhorted. Not too much, perhaps, but sometimes to the wrong people. The ones who needed most to hear were absent. Sometimes, too, the preacher was not in such a favorable position in the matter that his efforts would insure very satisfactory results.

Frequently, very fine folks, with the very best of intentions, have endeavored to invent something interesting to make the day specially attractive and their program has included distinct Christian ideals and spiritual contact, but usually the results were insignificant. Perhaps they overlooked the fact that "spiritual things are spiritually discerned."

Some of us have fought long and valiantly in the civil courts and legislative halls for the preservation and strengthening of the so-called "blue laws." They are white rather than blue.

I am not disposed to criticize nor even minimize the significance and value of all this, but, frankly, I am not as deeply impressed with it all as some of my fine brethren seem to be.

Back of what one sees on the surface of things in this Sabbath question, is *the* deadly enemy to the sacred Sabbath. Our greatest concern is not about Sunday amusements, or Sunday excursions, or Sunday baseball or Sunday movies, bad as they all are. The subtlest enemy of our Lord's holy day is to be found among at least so-called Christian people.

The very first step, and I recognize that it is only one step, in saving the Sabbath is for real Christian people and the Christian world in general *to have a conscience about it.* Many do and our complex society makes it almost impossible for some of them to seem to be consistent in their observance of it, but there is another group who simply drift with the world.

Let real Christian people forego the profits and quit their business on Sabbath; let God's children devoutly and earnestly seek His house and bow down in humble worship on the Sabbath; let Christians make it a very happy, but at the same time a very holy day, (which is very possible); let Christians really live with God that one day in seven, and we shall have gone a long way in restoring the Sabbath to its rightful place in the religious and social life of America.

No one has yet improved on Isaiah's inspired message about this and never will: "If thou turn away thy foot from (upon) the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own way, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

The influence of such a course would be astonishingly contageous. Then the fibre of Christian life would be felt everywhere. When that happens our heavenly Father will find his will and his power expressing themselves in the home and in the Church and in the community, and no matter what else we do, the restoration of the Christian Sabbath will be a disheartening task until this deep consciousness of its place and its worth takes hold of those who have declared their allegiance to our Lord. A motivating Christian conscience in this matter is badly needed, as it is also in many other phases of modern life.

New Crusade Against Liquor Traffic

(Continued from Page 3)

paper, magazine and billboard displays that everywhere seek to popularize new or familiar brands. Slick sales talks are interspersed in radio programs that broadcast football scores and entertainment features which appeal to hosts of youthful listeners as the family gather together in the evening hours. Never a hint is given of the true effects of indulgence in liquor, but propaganda that deludes the uninformed and tempts the thoughtless and the innocent. Forbid all liquor advertising and liquor sponsored broadcasts.

(b) Place heavy restrictions on the purchase of liquor and increased taxes on all sales throughout the duration of the war. Reduce the available supply at least 50 percent so that temptations to drunkenness will be lessened and absenteeism at the mills reduced in the interest of war production. Rubber is needed for transportation of essential war workers. Why waste it in delivering booze? Shipping space is needed to carry larger food supplies both to our fighting forces and the victims of aggression. Why ship beer and restrict food and gifts to the soldiers? Whiskey in storage can be redistilled and the alcohol used in manufacturing explosives. In every way possible make the interests of the liquor industry second to the essential needs of our massive war effort. Can less than that be asked of any industry?

(c) Reduce the number of saloons, regardless of the name under which they masquerade. Any place that is licensed to sell liquor for consumption on the premises is a saloon. Devise some method to lessen the number of these licensed temptations to squander war wages that should be used to purchase war bonds. Many workers in industrial areas must walk past as many as 25 of these saloons on their way to and from work. Increased war wages and bonuses are absorbed by multitudes of saloon keepers and so fail to purchase necessities for the family.

(d) Make local option available for all units of government, so that citizens in each community can be given an opportunity to vote to protect themselves and their children from the alluring saloon. We are fighting a war for world wide democracy. Let us practice the principles of democracy in each community and thus experience its direct blessings. That means also the elimination of state liquor stores in communities that vote dry.

(e) Foster an intelligent program of education in all schools to teach facts regarding the physical and social results of alcoholic beverages. Avoid the sensational and emotional and stress the conclusions of medical science. Use all the aids of visual education in making vivid the effects of alcohol on the vital organs and the more sensitive tissues. Alcohol has the same effect on the human personality that releasing the brakes has on an automobile parked on the hillside. It accelerates speech and animal passions by releasing the brakes set by embarrassment, self-control and self-restraint. Thus it causes conversation to flow more freely at a dinner party, but it results in hilarious excitement and indulgence in inflamed passions. By releasing the restraints of self-control and modesty, thousands of pleasure seeking youths have yielded to temptations which sear the soul and mar the body. Protect young people by education that warns and informs.

Is there anything in that five-fold program that does not pass the test of common sense? Use the program as a practical basis for enlisting your intelligent and conscientious friends in a crusade that is imperatively needed both from the viewpoint of religion and patriotism. Rise up, O men of God! Onward Christian soldiers!

ANNUAL MEETING

A most interesting and encouraging annual meeting of The National Reform Association was held on the afternoon and evening of December 7th in the East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The attendance at both sessions was much larger than that of last year or any recent year.

Business Meeting

Following a devotional service conducted by Rev. H. B. Mansell of Pittsburgh, a member of the Board of Directors, the annual business meeting was held with the President of the Association, Dr. R. H. Martin, presiding. Reports from the Board of Directors, the chairmen of the various departments, the treasurer and the president of the Association showed a large amount of work accomplished during the past year.

The Publication Department showed 197,425 copies of different pieces of literature published totaling 479,825 pages at a cost of $1,311.00; that practically all of this literature was distributed and in addition more than 1,000 copies of Dr. Fleming's book of 250 pages, "God in Our Public Schools," published in 1942.

The Field Department reported on meetings and conferences held and addresses made by the president of the Association, members of the Board of Directors and others representing the Association before the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Christian layman's groups, Kentucky Sunday School Association, Louisville Council of Churches, ministerial associations, regional and state W.C.T.U. conventions, county Sabbath school conventions and churches.

The report of the Finance Committee and the treasurer's report showed an increase in contributions of $1,300, over the preceding year.

The work of the Association is managed by a Board of twenty-seven directors, one-third of whom are elected each year for a term of three years. The following whose terms expired this year were re-elected: Rev. Ross M. Haverfield, Rev. T. Leroy Hooper, D.D., Rev. A. R. Robinson, D.D., Mr. S. K. Cunningham, Mr. Frank H. Davis, Rev. W. W. T. Duncan, D.D., Rev. J. S. Martin, D.D., Mr. S. Gordon Thompson and Rev. E. Joe Vandervort. To fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Hugh Leith on account of illness, Rev. J. Reade McCrory, D.D., Pastor of the Chartiers United Presbyterian Church, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, was elected to fill out the term expiring in 1944.

Afternoon Conference

Following the business session a conference was held with Mr. Frank H. Davis, President of the Board of Directors, presiding. Dr. W. W. McKinney, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Ambridge, Pa., gave a very informing and stirring address on "The New Crusade Against the Liquor Traffic," the substance of which is contained in this issue of The Christian Statesman. He was followed by Dr. Hugh A. Kelsey, President of Sterling College, Sterling, Kansas, whose subject was "One Step Toward Saving the Sabbath." Dr. Kelsey emphasized the special values which underlie the proper uses of the Sabbath and traced much of our difficulty in maintaining the Sabbath to the indifference of church members toward it. The substance of his address appears in this issue.

The closing address of the afternoon was given by Mr. R. W. Bachman, Assistant Special Agent in charge of the Pittsburgh Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, on "Present Day Activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation." Mr. Bachman gave a most informing address chiefly on the work of the F.B.I. in relation to the war situation and stressing the recent increase in juvenile delinquency and crime.

All of these messages were received with hearty applause.

Evening Dinner and Session

A feature of the evening session for many years has been a dinner which was served to 110 guests (25 more than last year), in one of the spacious dining halls in this large and beautiful church building. Mrs. Tracy M. Morrison, soprano, of Pittsburgh, sang a group of songs accompanied on the piano by Miss Creagh Richford, also of Pittsburgh. Miss Richford also played a piano solo. This entertainment was highly appreciated and enjoyed by all. We were happy to have Dr. McCrory, newly elected to the Board of Directors, as toastmaster, who after appropriate remarks introduced the speakers of the evening.

The first speaker was Dr. J. S. Martin, Executive Secretary of Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., who formerly was for many years General Superintendent of The National Reform Association. He gave a masterly address on "A Challenging Need and Opportunity." Under this title he spoke on the need of the Bible and non-sectarian religious instruction in the public schools of our country and of the wide open door before the Association in promoting this cause. The greater part of his address which was received with hearty applause is reproduced in this issue of The Statesman.

The closing address of the evening was to have been made by Rev. Schuyler E. Garth, D.D., Pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church, Youngstown, Ohio. On account of illness Dr. Garth was unable to be present. His place was ably filled by Rev. H. B. Mansell, Pastor of the Sheraden Methodist Church, Pittsburgh, a member of the Board of Directors of the Association on short notice. His message on "Laying Foundations for Tomorrow's World" was concise, clear and very much to the point and greatly appreciated by those present.

Re-election of Officers

On the following Tuesday, December 14th, the Board of Directors met, organized, appointed committees and elected officers of The National Reform Association for the following year. Officers of the Board of Directors and Chairmen of the various departments of last year were re-elected (Dr. McCrory was added to the Field Department) as follows: Mr. Frank H. Davis, President; Mr. E. Clay Young, Vice President; Rev. H. B. Mansell, Secretary; Rev. W. W. McKinney, Ph.D., Chairman of the Field Department; Mr. E. Clay Young, Chairman of the Finance Committee and Rev. D. H. Elliott, D.D., Chairman of the Publication Committee.

The following were elected officers of The National Reform Association for the year: Rev. R. H. Martin, D.D., President; Rev. T. Leroy Hooper, D.D., Second Vice President; Rev. D. H. Elliott, D.D., Secretary; Mr. Knox M. Young, Treasurer; Miss Marian F. Wiegel, Assistant Treasurer. Dr. R. H. Martin was elected editor-in-chief of The Christian Statesman.

Program for 1944

Dr. Martin, President of the Association, concluded his annual report at the business meeting of the Association by outlining the Association's program for 1944. The program covered the usual lines of the Association's activities on Christian government, the liquor traffic, the Sabbath, the Bible in the Schools, International Peace, but on a very much larger scale particularly with reference to the Bible and religion in our public schools and to the setting up of a New World Order on a Christian basis. He recommended increased effort along every line but that the Association's efforts in reference to the last named be doubled if not trebled and the work of the Bible in the schools be increased many-fold. This report was approved and a financial budget of $25,000.00 to meet the expense of carrying forward this program recommended by the Finance Committee was approved by the Board of Directors.

Association Activities

A second printing of Dr. Fleming's book, "God in Our Public Schools," of 2,000 copies will soon be off the press. This book has been received with such favor that a much more extensive publicising and placing of it in the hands of key people throughout the nation is one of the chief items in the program of The National Reform Association for 1944.

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Following the placing of Dr. Fleming's book in the hands of the officers of the Kentucky Sunday School Association and the Council of Churches of Louisville, Kentucky, President R. H. Martin of The National Reform Association spent several days in conference with these officials at Louisville and presented to them a program for week-day religious instruction in the public schools of Kentucky in line with that advocated in Dr. Fleming's book. This program was received with favor and at a later meeting of the officials of the Kentucky Sunday School Association, it was voted to make the putting of this program into operation in the schools of the state their major undertaking, to secure a qualified person to give his entire time to this work and a substantial sum of money was set apart to underwrite the project. The counsel and assistance of The National Reform Association in carrying forward the work was requested.

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The Association is carrying forward an extensive program on behalf of a Christian World Order. The program includes placing in the hands of Christian leaders throughout the nation (a) a Petition for a Christian World Order addressed to the United States Senate, in which is embodied a Christian Charter for the New Order, (b) copy of the 12 page issue of The Christian Statesman devoted entirely to a discussion of this subject, 5,000 copies of which were printed, and a second printing of 10,000 copies which is just off the press, (c) a letter accompanying the above and requesting the same be studied and the Petition adopted by organizations or signed by individuals and sent on to Washington.

Also sending an article which was placed in the Congressional Record by Congressman Cunningham of Iowa entitled "America's Responsibility for a Christian World Order" along with the above Petition and letter to Christian leaders. This article was taken from a former issue of The Christian Statesman. We have secured from the Government Printing office 25,000 copies of this article for this use.

Challenging Need and Opportunity

(Continued from Page 2)

Christ and Christianity must have no place on the campus. If you want to know anything about either you must get off the school property.

Danville, Ky., the county seat of Kentucky County, has introduced Bible study directly into its public schools, the classes being sponsored and financed by the churches, business houses and clubs of the city.

The curriculum of the schools in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., contains religious courses for which due credit is given, a plan inaugurated under the direction of the late school superintendent, Dr. Ben Graham.

A bill legalizing religious instruction for public school children was in 1941 introduced into the Colorado legislature. And that very same year bills for the teaching of religion in the schools were before the legislatures of Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and New Mexico.

Release Time

A thousand communities in the United States are practicing the plan of "release time" for religious training in connection with the public schools. And a very large number of school boards are considering the introduction of religious education in their school systems. Among these are New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Buffalo, Birmingham, Milwaukee, Cincinnati and Omaha. And in scores of communities this instruction has been given in the schools themselves by the regularly employed teachers, paid out of the public treasury. Witness, for example, the schools of Kalamazoo and Highland Park, Mich., where professors Drake and Graves have made for themselves an enviable reputation. These citations are straws showing the direction in which the wind is blowing. True, not all of them are ideal, but they do show a decided trend in the right direction, an awakening on the part of a host of people.

"God in Our Public Schools"

Want of space forbids further enumeration of such activities. In addition to these, we of the National Reform Association have the unique, comprehensive, informing, inspiring, authentic and practical book, "God in Our Public Schools," the greatest book on this particular subject that ever came from the press. It has been well-nigh universally endorsed. The first edition of 2000 copies is well-night exhausted. A second edition of a like number is now on the press. And to crown it all, additional funds have been secured and other promised by men of large means to put the program advocated by the book into effect in the schools of the country.

Difficulties Can Be Overcome

In the light of the above, the National Reform Association faces a challenging opportunity that it dare not fail to improve. Don't say the program of the Association to have Bible instruction in our schools by the regularly employed teachers, paid out of the public treasury, cannot be put into effect, as we have said it has already been in operation in certain sections, Kalamazoo and Highland Park near Detroit, Mich., for example.

If you have fear that teachers are not qualified to carry out the program, qualify them. We have teachers specially trained to teach English, history, geography, mathematics, physics, etc. And why not prepare teachers for teaching the all important subject of national religion?

Nor should we fear opposition to the adoption of this program. If it comes, let us meet it, courageously. There is but one final answer to it and it is this:

This is a democracy, is it not? We make no apology for that. Nor do we propose to do so. In fact we are shedding the blood of our choicest young men in defense of it. Any autocrat, or any number of such, are at perfect liberty to live here and enjoy all the fruits of our democratic form of government—so long as they do not openly attack it. And the very moment they do, one of two things happens to them, either they are deported or jailed.

Well, this is a Christocracy. It was a Christocracy long before it was a democracy. In fact its democracy sprang from its Christocracy. We make no apology for this being a Christocracy—a country whose Supreme Court has declared it to be Christian. Nor do we propose to do so. Unchristian men and women, even the bitterest enemies of Christ and Christianity, may live in this country. They are perfectly welcome to do so and to enjoy all the fruits of our Protestant Christianity; so long as they do not openly attack it, in an attempt to keep the Bible and its nonsectarian teachings out of our public schools, for example. And when they do, it is high time for them to seek a country where they will have things to their liking.

National Godliness

National Godliness is the one true balance between liberty and law. National godlessness in anarchy. God save us from that, and as a means to that end, God save us from a Godless, Christless, Bibleless system of public education.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Faith of Abraham Lincoln, *by* D. RAYMOND TAGGART, Service Printing Shop, 1209 Boswell Ave., Topeka, Kansas ($2.00).

Of writing books on Lincoln there is no end. It would seem that every side of his life, every kind of service he rendered our Country and Mankind have been covered in books already written about him. But there is one side of this great man's life that has not been adequately covered in any book we have seen on Lincoln, namely his religious life. It is with this phase of Lincoln's life that this book deals and in a most satisfactory way. That Lincoln was not only a sincere believer in God, but also a devout believer in Jesus Christ as his and the world's Saviour, and in the Bible as the revelation of God's will for men and nations to live by. Dr. Taggart supports in this book with evidence that should convince any unprejudiced mind. To establish this he submits much proof we do not find in any book on Lincoln's life.

The need for demonstration of his religious faith is emphasized by the fact that Lincoln never made a public confession of his faith in the way such confession is usually made, by becoming a member of any Christian Church. Concerning this the author says:

"Because Lincoln belonged to no church, the unbeliever claims him as having belonged to his persuasion. 'Look,' says he with pride, 'what great men unbelief produces! Lincoln was an unbeliever like myself.' And so this hero of the ages has been claimed by the infidels, the atheists, the agnostics, the deists, the Universalists, the Unitarians, the Spiritualists. An examination of the facts will show that while Lincoln never 'belonged to a church' in the technical sense, yet the mature, the ripened, the perfected Lincoln who as Staunton pronounced as belonging to the ages, did in the most real sense, 'belong to the Church of Jesus Christ.' She bear him, she mothered him, she comforted him, she taught him, she buried him. That in a certain period of his life he passed, as most youths do, through the shadowy valley of doubt and indifference, need not be denied, but the evening time was light."

The manifold proof which the author submits to establish Lincoln's Christian faith is the contribution which this book makes to the life of Lincoln. In making this contribution to Lincoln's life, it also makes a contribution to Christianity and to the cause of Christian patriotism.

The book is well written and should have a wide reading. It should be in schools and public libraries. It is a book parents might well place in the hands of their children in high school, a fitting gift to friends at this holiday season, and will be of special help to those who are called upon for addresses on Lincoln on the day so widely observed throughout our country in celebration of his birth.

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"THE CHRIST STORY," illustrated by Everett Shinn, published by the John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia, $1.50.

The text is taken entirely from the King James Version of Matthew and Luke as they tell of the birth of Christ and His life up to twelve; the Introduction is the famous prophecy of Christ's birth from Isaiah.

The story is beautifully and reverently illustrated by Everett Shinn, one of America's foremost and most beloved artists. Half of the illustrations are full page (10" by 8") illustrations. Seldom have we seen so beautiful and appealing a volume depicting the birth and early life of the Saviour of the world. A most appropriate gift for children and young people at any time but especially at the Christmas Season.

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"VICTORIOUS AMERICA," by H. A. Wood, B. A. Louise, Mississippi. 140 pages, $1.50. Secure from the author.

This is a decidedly religious and patriotic book. It shows the hand of God in American history, emphasizing the place the Bible, Christianity, and prayer have had in the development of our nation's life. It deals largely with God's interposition on behalf of America and the allied nations in the First and Second World Wars. Two of the best chapters are entitled, "The Unseen Factor in All Victories" and "The Supreme Method of Victory." The former chapter gives many remarkable instances in which God by control of the elements—the wind, rain, snow, sea—was the deciding factor in battles. The latter cites numerous instances in which intercessory prayer was the power that prevailed over the enemy.

"THE FINAL OUTCOME OF HITLER'S MAD DREAM" is the title of another book by the same author. 75 pages, $1.00.

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"THESE MEN SHALL NEVER DIE," by Lowell Thomas. Published by the John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia, $2.00.

The story of seventy-two Americans whose deeds of heroism and achievement on land, on sea, under the sea, and in the air in this global war, represents a cross section of American fighting men who distinguished themselves in America's first year of the war. The story is told as only the famous radio commmentator, Lowell Thomas, can tell it, and illustrated with official photographs by the U. S. Navy, U. S. Army Signal Corps, Air Corps and Marine Corps.

If Hitler could be induced to read this story it would convince him that our "decadent democracy" has been able to produce fighting men who in initiative, courage, daring and achievement are unexcelled by any men the totalitarian states have produced.

This book will stir the blood of every patriot who reads it. It will furnish a strong incentive to American civilians to do their part in winning the war; and to all of us an impelling motive to put forth our best efforts to set up a World Order that will not require those who come after us to make such sacrifices as these heroes are now making to preserve the liberties and freedom of mankind.

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"THE WRECKING OF THE EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT," by Ernest Gordon. 312 pages. The Alcohol Information Press, Francestown, New Hampshire, $1.60.

For most of his life the author of this book has been a student of the liquor issue and has written numerous books on this subject, the best known being "When the Brewers Had the Strangle-Hold." He has made a very extensive and thorough investigation and study of the Repeal of Eighteenth Amendment as his book evidences. Those who want to know the real facts concerning this most humiliating and disgraceful thing that has taken place in the history of our nation should read this book along with Mr. Fletcher Dodyn's, "The Amazing Story of Repeal," published several years ago. Mr. Gordon tells the story faithfully, courageously, fearlessly. He names the parties involved in bringing about repeal—men of great wealth and influence, men high in political life in the nation—gives dates and cites the authorities for practically every statement made about them.

Reading the book brings to mind the commission under which God's ancient prophet, Isaiah, declared to Israel her sins—"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet"—and we cannot but believe this book was written under the same compulsion.

It is a book that should be in the library of every leader in the temperance cause. Pastors should have it. It should be placed in public libraries. We urge the readers of The Christian Statesman to secure copy for themselves and extra copies to place in the hands of others.